Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the last paragraph on page 13 of the application as filed with the paragraph below. This paragraph flows from page 13 to page 14 and includes page 14,

line 4.

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Fig. 4 illustrates an example of such user-guided behavior. It can be seen from Fig. 3 that the user selected donor 215 to place in the middle slot of Equipment Frame 1. However, as the object moves over the middle slot of Equipment Frame 1, the user receives an indication that this placement is not permissible, as it would result in a violation of the forward-looking rules. This is evidenced by the cross mark 410 instead of the object in Fig. 4. The user now has a chance to amend her selection. In one embodiment of the present invention, the user may not be permitted to violate a forward-looking rule at all, and may not be allowed, for example, to place donor 215 in the middle slot of Equipment Frame 1, once donor 210 has already been placed in the top slot of Equipment Frame 1. In another embodiment of the present invention, the user may be permitted to violate a forward-looking rule, but the objects which violates a constraint may continue to appear different (for example, an X 410), so as to remind the user that a constraint has been violated. This can be seen in Fig. 5, where both the objects appear as Xs 505 and 410. In figure 6, the user is in the process of dragging an object 310 away from the position which caused the constrained state. The reason there is still an X 505 in the upper left corner is that the user hasn't finished dragging yet, so she has not actually moved out of the constrained state yet. The auction is not complete until she drops the object somewhere, be it in another slot

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or in the trash. In figure 7 the user has completed the action and dropped the object 310 in another slot, which moved the configurator into a state that is not constrained. Thus in figure 7, the X is not visible any more. Instead, all objects 305, 310 can now be seen again.

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Please replace the last paragraph on page 14 of the application as filed with the paragraph below. This paragraph includes page 14, line 15.

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In one embodiment of a system in accordance with the present invention, the system may be implemented over the Internet. This is further described below with reference to Figs. 9A, 9B and 10. In an embodiment, the user interface 110 code may be in one browser frame, and the user intelligence 140 code may be in another browser frame. In an embodiment of the present invention, the browser frame in which the user intelligence 140 code resides may be hidden, and may not be visible to the user.

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Please replace the last full paragraph on page 17 of the application as filed with the paragraph below. This paragraph runs from page 17 line 12 through page 17 line 19.

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Referring to Fig. 9A, it can be seen that in conventional systems, every time that the user made a selection, the user interface 110 on the client device 910 sends 930 the entire page to the inference engine 170 on the server 920. The inference engine 170 on the server 920, in turn sends 940 an entire new page back to the client device 910. Thus a large amount of information needs to be

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exchanged between the client device 910 and the remote server 920 each time a selection is made by the user. This resulted in the conventional system being slow and inefficient when the intelligence is placed on a remote server 920 with which the client device 910 communicates over the Internet.

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Please add the following paragraph to the specification. This paragraph should be placed following the text on page 20 of the specification as filed and prior to the claims.

A. J.

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